

March 19, 2015



New Law! Compulsory Attendance Age

The following was sent to KYAE Listserv

TO: Adult Education Program Directors and Staff

FROM: Reecie Stagnolia, Vice President, Kentucky Adult Education
Travis Powell, General Counsel, the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education

Compulsory Attendance Law – Senate Bill 97 (KRS 159.010)

Several of you have inquired about implementation of the new compulsory attendance age requirements of KRS 159.010 (amended through Senate Bill 97 in the 2013 Regular Session) and its impact on Kentucky Adult Education (KYAE) programs' services.

Beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, the compulsory attendance age will increase from 16 to 18 in most school districts.

Therefore, **effective July 1, 2015**, in order to ensure consistency with the compulsory attendance age law and the federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) (...“who are not enrolled or required to be enrolled in secondary school **under State law**...”), KYAE programs in school districts implementing the new compulsory attendance age law in the 2015-2016 school year **shall not serve individuals residing in those districts under the age of 18**.

While some students in those districts under the age of 18 may have been previously served in fiscal year 2014-15 and/or may possess GED® test scores (taken and/or passed GED® test module(s)), **they will no longer be eligible for adult education services as of July 1, 2015**.

{Please be advised that **home school students and Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) students** are **not exempt** from this new compulsory attendance age law.}

Students residing in **school districts with later implementation dates** for the law **may continue to be served** by adult education programs until the compulsory attendance age increase goes into effect in those districts. The districts with **later implementation dates are as follows**:

2016-17— Newport Independent

2017-18— Ashland Independent
Caldwell County
Hickman County
Laurel County
Letcher County
Rockcastle County

For more information on Kentucky Senate Bill 97, raising the compulsory attendance age to 18, (passed by the Kentucky General Assembly Spring of 2013) see: <http://education.ky.gov/school/pages/compattend.aspx> or **contact Christina Weeter** at **Kentucky Department of Education** at **502-564-4772, ext. 4067**, or christina.weeter@education.ky.gov, for additional information.